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ESTABLISHES RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONAL FUND

The Council of Ministers has issued Decree No 170/1951 (IX. 15.) M.T. relative to the establishment of a Religious Denominational Fund.

The decree states that the Council of Ministers, in accordance with the agreement concluded with the religious denominations, has assumed responsibility for a substantial part of the churches' expenses. Priests' salaries were increased, and they were included in the social health insurance.

The fund was created by the Council of Ministers to insure financial execution of the churches religious tasks, and for their administrative and personnel expenditures. Income of the fund is derived from state appropriations for the religious denominations, and from the book value of agricultural property offered voluntarily by the churches, and from other sources. The book value of the agricultural properties offered voluntarily by the churches will be managed separately by the fund.

The State Bureau of Church Affairs, which administers the fund, will submit annual reports on the management of the fund to the Council of Ministers.

The fund is tax-exempt. State subsidies for the fund will be provided in the appropriation of the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers.

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